

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell having a proton conductive system at least comprising (a) a Brönsted acid and (b) a base having a lone electron-pair, wherein

the Brönsted acid (a) is selected from the group consisting of methanesulfonic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, and derivatives thereof, and

the base (b) has a structure in which one or more groups are added to a group having the lone electron-pair, and a total number of constitutional atoms other than H atom included in all the added group is three or less.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein

the base (b) is a base having a molecular weight of 300 or less.

4. (Original) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell according to claim 3, wherein the base having the molecular weight of 300 or less comprises at least one kind of base having a structure in which one or more groups are added to a compound selected from a group consisting of imidazole, pyrazole, triazole, pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine and pyridazine, and a total number of constitutional atoms other than H atom included in all the added group is three or less.

5. (Previously Presented) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein

the group to be added to the group having the lone electron-pair is at least one kind selected from: a hydrocarbon group having 3 or less carbon atoms; a hydroxyl group-containing hydrocarbon group having 3 or less in a total number of carbon and oxygen atoms; a carbonyl group; a carboxyl group; an amino group; an imino group; a nitro group; and an amide group.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell according to claim 3, wherein

the group to be added to the group having the lone electron-pair is at least one kind selected from: a hydrocarbon group having 3 or less carbon atoms; a hydroxyl group-containing hydrocarbon group having 3 or less in a total number of carbon and oxygen atoms; a carbonyl group; a carboxyl group; an amino group; an imino group; a nitro group; and an amide group.

9. (Previously Presented) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell according to claim 4, wherein

the group to be added to the group having the lone electron-pair is at least one kind selected from: a hydrocarbon group having 3 or less carbon atoms; a hydroxyl group-containing hydrocarbon group having 3 or less in a total number of carbon and oxygen atoms; a carbonyl group; a carboxyl group; an amino group; an imino group; a nitro group; and an amide group.